

STATEMENT OF SENATOR LARRY E. CRAIG
SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
“CRIME WITHOUT CRIMINALS? SENIORS,
DEMENTIA AND THE AFTERMATH”

GOOD AFTERNOON SENATOR BREAUX AND ESTEEMED PANEL MEMBERS.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING TODAY’S COMMITTEE HEARING. I WISH TO
COMMEND SENATOR BREAUX AND HIS STAFF FOR BRINGING THE PUBLIC’S
ATTENTION AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE COMMITTEE’S ATTENTION TO OUR
SOCIETY’S RESPONSE TO THE ELDERLY, WHO SUFFERING FROM THE AFFECTS OF
DISEASE AND ILLNESS, RESORT TO BEHAVIOR THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE
CONSIDERED CRIMINAL.

WE NEED TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE AFFECTS OF DEMENTIA
PRODUCED BY MEDICAL PROBLEMS AND HOW BEST TO ORCHESTRATE
APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO SITUATIONS WHERE SUCH INDIVIDUALS PRESENT
POSSIBLE HARM TO THEMSELVES OR OTHERS.

I BELIEVE THIS HEARING IS A BEGINNING IN THAT UNDERSTANDING. I
LOOK FORWARD TO THE WITNESSES TESTIMONY AND THE ENLIGHTENMENT
THEY CAN GIVE THE COMMITTEE IN THIS AREA.

THANK YOU.